

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING  
BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 16 AUGUST 1993

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 1074-0-01 (ACCNO 5780)  
Name: RIOS, NOEL LUIS

Status: (F) DEAD BODY NOT RECOVERED  
Date Status assigned: 7 Mar 1969

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	\$
Service	AIR FORCE	Sex	MALE	Blood type	O +
Grade	E5	Hair	BLACK	Complexion	#
SSAN		Eyes	HAZEL	Weapon	.45 CAL PISTOL
Serial No	DATA	Height	70 in / 1.78 mtrs	Weapon No	03979
Birth date		Weight	160 lb / 72.5 kg	Duty pos	PASSENGER
Home State	NEW JERSEY	Religion	PROTESTANT	PW Camp	\$

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type: CRASH SITE  
UTM: 48QXD933404  
Lat/Long: 163822N / 1064845E  
Country: SOUTH VIETNAM  
Military Region: 1  
Mission Province: QUANG TRI  
(formerly):  
Mission District: HUONG HOA  
Mission Date: 6 Mar 1968  
Mission Category: 3  
Local Analysis: Near populated area.

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Investigations: Jun 93  
Surveys: Jun 93  
Vessey Case: NO  
Case type: CRASH SITE  
Survivability: (3) Unknown

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type: C123K	Serial: 590
Crash Type: Enemy action	Engine Type: R2800
Call Sign: BOOKIE 84	1 Serial: #
Year: 54	2 Serial: #

===== SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY =====

# = Item has been researched but data cannot be obtained.  
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===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 1074-0-02 (ACCNO 6634)  
Name: ANSELMO, WILLIAM FRANK

Status: (F) DEAD BODY NOT RECOVERED  
Date Status assigned: 7 Mar 1969

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	\$
Service	AIR FORCE	Sex	MALE	Blood type	# #
Grade	E5	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	#
SSAN		Eyes	BLUE	Weapon	.38 CAL PISTOL
Serial No	DATA	Height	69 in / 1.75 mtrs	Weapon No	C267786
Birth date		Weight	147 lb / 66.6 kg	Duty pos	PASSENGER
Home State	COLORADO	Religion	CATHOLIC	PW Camp	\$

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===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 1074-0-03 (ACCNO 5762)                      Status: (K) REMAINS RECOVERED  
Name: SMITH, JAMES HERBERT JR                      Date Status assigned: 15 Mar 1974

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	
Service	MARINE CORPS	Sex	MALE	Blood type	0
Grade	E3	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	RUDDY
SSAN		Eyes	BROWN	Weapon	
Serial No	DATA	Height	67 in /1.70 mtrs	Weapon No	
Birth date		Weight	265 lb /120.0 kg	Duty pos	PASSENGER
Home State	NEVADA	Religion	CATHOLIC	PW Camp	

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type: CRASH SITE  
UTM: 48QXD933404  
Lat/Long: 163822N / 1064845E  
Country: SOUTH VIETNAM  
Military Region: 1  
Mission Province: QUANG TRI  
(formerly):  
Mission District: HUONG HOA  
Mission Date: 6 Mar 1968  
Mission Category: 3  
Local Analysis: Near populated area.

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Investigations: Jun 93  
Surveys: Jun 93  
Vessey Case: NO

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type: C123K	Serial: 590
Crash Type: Enemy action	Engine Type: R2800
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BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 16 AUGUST 1993

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 1074-0-04 (ACCNO 5349)                      Status: (K) REMAINS RECOVERED  
Name: CONLIN, JEFFREY FRANCIS                      Date Status assigned: 9 Sep 1968

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	
Service	AIR FORCE	Sex	MALE	Blood type	
Grade	E3	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	
SSAN		Eyes	BLUE	Weapon	
Serial No	DATA	Height	65 in /1.65 mtrs	Weapon No	
Birth date		Weight	125 lb / 56.6 kg	Duty pos	CREWMAN
Home State	CALIFORNIA	Religion	CATHOLIC	PW Camp	KHE SANH AIR

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type: CRASH SITE  
UTM: 48QXD933404  
Lat/Long: 163822N / 1064845E  
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Military Region: 1  
Mission Province: QUANG TRI  
(formerly):  
Mission District: HUONG HOA  
Mission Date: 6 Mar 1968  
Mission Category: 3  
Local Analysis: Near populated area.

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Investigations: Jun 93  
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===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type: C123K	Serial: 590
Crash Type: Enemy action	Engine Type: R2800
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CASE: 1074

=== CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS ===

7 April 1975

ON 6 MARCH 1968 SGT NOEL L. RIOS AND SGT WILLIAM F. ANSELMO WERE PASSENGERS ON A C-123K AIRCRAFT, (#54-0590), FLYING FROM DA NANG TO KHE SANH, SOUTH VIETNAM. THE AIRCRAFT WAS SHOT DOWN BY HOSTILE FIRE IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES XD 933 404 IN SOUTH VIETNAM. THEY HAD BEEN MANIFESTED ON ANOTHER FLIGHT FOR KHE SANH. HOWEVER, THAT AIRCRAFT DID NOT FLY DUE TO MAINTENANCE PROBLEMS. NO PASSENGERS WERE MANIFESTED ON THE INCIDENT AIRCRAFT, AND LOADMASTER PACAF FORM 112A INDICATED NONE.

ALTHOUGH THERE WERE NO PASSENGERS MANIFESTED ON THEIR FLIGHT, BECAUSE BOTH AIRMEN WERE FAMILIAR WITH THE AIRCREWS, (THEY BOTH HAD BEEN TO KHE SANH NUMEROUS TIMES IN THE RECENT PAST), IT IS CONCEIVABLE THAT THEY COULD HAVE BEEN ABOARD THIS AIRCRAFT. THEIR AIRCRAFT WAS FLOWN TO PHU BAI WHERE FORTY-FOUR PASSENGERS BOARDED FOR KHE SANH, ENROUTE TO KHE SANH. THE AIRCRAFT ENCOUNTERED HOSTILE GROUND FIRE AND CRASHED ABOUT EIGHT MILES EAST OF KHE SANH, WITH NO APPARENT SURVIVORS. AERIAL PORT PERSONNEL AT KHE SANH STATED THAT NEITHER SGT RIOS NOR SGT ANSELMO ARRIVED AT KHE SANH ON OR ABOUT 6 MARCH.

7 April 1976

TELEPHONE CALLS TO OTHER DETACHMENTS REVEALED NO ONE HAD SEEN THEM SINCE 6 MARCH. THE PASSENGER REPRESENTATIVE AT PHU BAI WHO HELPED ON-LOAD PASSENGERS DID NOT RECALL SEEING EITHER AIRMAN. A SEARCH OF THE CRASH SITE FAILED TO YIELD ANY EVIDENCE OF EITHER SGT RIOS OR SGT ANSELMO. (REF 1)

DURING THE EXISTENCE OF JCRC, THE HOSTILE THREAT IN THE AREA PRECLUDED ANY VISITS TO OR GROUND INSPECTIONS OF THE SITE INVOLVED IN THIS CASE. SSGT RIOS AND SSGT ANSELMO' NAMES AND IDENTIFYING DATA WERE TURNED OVER TO THE FOUR-PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM WITH A REQUEST FOR ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE. NO RESPONSE WAS FORTHCOMING. IN SEPTEMBER 1973, AT THE REQUEST OF JCRC, THE US DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE SAIGON, REVIEWED AVAILABLE AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY BUT COULD FIND NO EVIDENCE OF AN AIRCRAFT CRASH AT THE LISTED COORDINATES. LCPL SMITH AND A1C CONLIN ARE CURRENTLY CARRIED IN THE PRESUMPTIVE STATUS OF RESOLVED, REMAINS RECOVERED.

LCPL JAMES H. SMITH, JR., USMC AND A1C JEFFREY F. CONLIN, USAF, WERE A PASSENGER AND A CREWMAN ON THE AIRCRAFT. GROUND SEARCH PARTIES FROM THE 3RD MARINE DIVISION SEARCHED THE AIRCRAFT WRECKAGE ON 26 APRIL, 24 JUNE AND 3 JULY 1968. ON EACH OCCASION SOME HUMAN REMAINS, DOG TAGS AND OTHER IDENTIFICATION MEDIA WERE RECOVERED. THE LAST TWO SEARCH PARTIES DEMOLISHED THE WRECKAGE PRIOR TO THEIR DEPARTURE. THE REMAINS AND IDENTIFICATION MEDIA WERE SUBSEQUENTLY PROCESSED THROUGH THE MORTUARIES AT DA NANG AND DOVER AFB, DELAWARE. THE REMAINS AND IDENTIFICATION MEDIA COULD BE IDENTIFIED WITH ONLY 19 OF THE 44 KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN ABOARD THE

CASE: 1074

AIRCRAFT.

RECORDS AVAILABLE AT THE CENTRAL IDENTIFICATION LABORATORY, PACIFIC, INDICATE THAT TWO SETS OF REMAINS IDENTIFIED AS THOSE OF SSGT RIOS AND SSG ANSELMO WERE SHIPPED TO DOVER AFB, DELAWARE, FROM THE SAIGON MORTUARY ON 23 OCTOBER 1968. SOME OF THE PROPOSED IDENTIFICATIONS OF REMAINS RECOVERED FROM THIS AIRCRAFT WERE REJECTED. THE ASSUMPTION IS THAT THE PROPOSED IDENTIFICATION OF REMAINS OF SSGT RIOS AND SSGT ANSELMO WAS NOT ACCEPTED BY THE AIR FORCE. LCPL SMITH AND A1C CONLIN ARE CURRENTLY CARRIED IN THE STATUS OF RESOLVED, REMAINS RECOVERED. (REF 3)

=== REFERENCES ===

7 April 1976

REFERENCES: <1> RPT, 15 AERIAL PORT, 17 MARCH 1968. <2> MSG, AFMPC, 202300Z FEB 69. <3> LTR, JCRC-CDD, 14 JANUARY 1976. <4> CJTFFA DET ONE BANGKOK TH 240354Z JUL 93.

=== ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS ===

7 April 1976

ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS: NOEL L. RIOS 1074-0-01, WILLIAM F. ANSELMO 1074-0-02, JAMES H. SMITH JR. 1074-03, AND JEFFREY F. CONLIN 1074-0-04.

=== MAJOR COORDINATE CHANGE ===

1 March 1976

INCIDENT/LAST KNOWN LOCATION CHANGED FROM XD884378 TO XD933404 BASED ON LTR, UNDATED, 2D LT LUSKY, 1 BN, 3 MAR DIV, SUBJ: C-123 MISSING AIRCRAFT REPORT.

=== JOINT INVESTIGATION, SURVEY OR EXCAVATION ===

11 August 1993

ON 1 JUL 93, IE3 INTERVIEWED THREE WITNESSES CONCERNING CASE 1074 AT DAK KRONG VILLAGE, HUONG HOA DISTRICT, QUANG TRI PROVINCE. ALL THREE WITNESSES INTERVIEWED BY IE3 SAID THEY DISCOVERED A CRASH SITE POSSIBLY ASSOCIATED TO THIS CASE AFTER 1976. THEY ALL SAW EVIDENCE OF PREVIOUS SCAVENGING, AND COULD ONLY PROVIDE LIMITED DESCRIPTIONS OF THE AIRCRAFT WRECKAGE. ADDITIONALLY, THE WITNESSES OBSERVED SMALL AMOUNTS OF HUMAN REMAINS AT THE SITE, BUT AGAIN, THEY WERE VAGUE IN THEIR DESCRIPTION. MEMBERS OF IE3 CONDUCTED A SITE SURVEY OF THE CRASH SITE, OBSERVING SEVERAL SMALL PIECES OF AIRCRAFT WRECKAGE AND RECOVERED A SMALL AMOUNT OF HUMAN BONES,

CASE: 1074  
INCLUDING ONE TOOTH. (REF 4)

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING  
BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 15 JUNE 1994

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 1074-0-01 (ACCNO 5780)	Status: (F) DEAD BODY NOT RECOVERED
Name: RIOS, NOEL LUIS	Date Status assigned: 7 Mar 1969

Nationality AMERICAN	Race CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit \$
Service AIR FORCE	Sex MALE	Blood type O +
Grade E5	Hair BLACK	Complexion #
SSAN DATA	Eyes HAZEL	Weapon .45 CAL PISTOL
Serial No 012576605	Height 70 in /1.78 mtrs	Weapon No 03979
Birth date 3 Apr 1941	Weight 160 lb / 72.5 kg	Duty pos PASSENGER
Home State NEW JERSEY	Religion PROTESTANT	PW Camp \$

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type: CRASH SITE  
UTM: 48QXD933404  
Lat/Long: 163822N / 1064845E  
Country: SOUTH VIETNAM  
Military Region: 1  
Mission Province: QUANG TRI  
(formerly):  
Mission District: HUONG HOA  
Mission Date: 6 Mar 1968  
Mission Category: 3  
Local Analysis: Near populated area.

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Remains Repatriated: YES  
Investigations: Jun 93  
Surveys: Jun 93  
Excavations: Apr 94  
Vessey Case: NO  
Case type: CRASH SITE  
Survivability: (3) Unknown

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type: C123K	Serial: 590
Crash Type: Enemy action	Engine Type: R2800
Call Sign: BOOKIE 84	1 Serial: #
Year: 54	2 Serial: #

===== SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY =====

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===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 1074-0-02 (ACCNO 6634)      Status: (F) DEAD BODY NOT RECOVERED  
Name: ANSELMO, WILLIAM FRANK      Date Status assigned: 7 Mar 1969

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	\$
Service	AIR FORCE	Sex	MALE	Blood type	# #
Grade	E5	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	#
SSAN	DATA	Eyes	BLUE	Weapon	.38 CAL PISTOL
Serial No	017696843	Height	69 in /1.75 mtrs	Weapon No	C267786
Birth date	22 Aug 1944	Weight	147 lb / 66.6 kg	Duty pos	PASSENGER
Home State	COLORADO	Religion	CATHOLIC	PW Camp	\$

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type: CRASH SITE  
UTM: 48QXD933404  
Lat/Long: 163822N / 1064845E  
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===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 1074-0-03 (ACCNO 5762)      Status: (K) REMAINS RECOVERED  
Name: SMITH, JAMES HERBERT JR      Date Status assigned: 15 Mar 1974

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	
Service	MARINE CORPS	Sex	MALE	Blood type	O
Grade	E3	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	RUDDY
SSAN	DATA	Eyes	BROWN	Weapon	
Serial No	2296633	Height	67 in /1.70 mtrs	Weapon No	
Birth date	3 Sep 1946	Weight	265 lb /120.0 kg	Duty pos	PASSENGER
Home State	NEVADA	Religion	CATHOLIC	PW Camp	

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

Site Type: CRASH SITE  
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===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 1074-0-04 (ACCNO 5349)                      Status: (K) REMAINS RECOVERED  
Name: CONLIN, JEFFREY FRANCIS                      Date Status assigned: 9 Sep 1968

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	
Service	AIR FORCE	Sex	MALE	Blood type	
Grade	E3	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	
SSAN	DATA	Eyes	BLUE	Weapon	
Serial No	19825648	Height	65 in / 1.65 mtrs	Weapon No	
Birth date	18 Jul 1945	Weight	125 lb / 56.6 kg	Duty pos	CREWMAN
Home State	CALIFORNIA	Religion	CATHOLIC	PW Camp	KHE SANH AIR

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)

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UTM: 48QXD933404  
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CASE: 1074

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=== SUBSEQUENT INFORMATION ===

24 September 1993

DURING THE 24TH JFA, A JOINT TEAM RECOVERED MATERIAL EVIDENCE AT GRID XD93344056. THE ITEMS ARE INSUFFICIENT TO CORRELATE TO THE 1074 INCIDENT. (REF 5)

=== REFERENCES ===

7 April 1976

REFERENCES: <1> RPT, 15 AERIAL PORT, 17 MARCH 1968. <2> MSG, AFMPC, 202300Z FEB 69. <3> LTR, JCRC-CDD, 14 JANUARY 1976. <4> CJTFFA DET ONE BANGKOK TH 240354Z JUL 93. <5> CJTF-FA DET ONE 261318Z JUL 93. <6> CJTFFA DET ONE 280147Z MAY 94.

=== ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS ===

7 April 1976

ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS: NOEL L. RIOS 1074-0-01, WILLIAM F. ANSELMO 1074-0-02, JAMES H. SMITH JR. 1074-03, AND JEFFREY F. CONLIN 1074-0-04.

=== MAJOR COORDINATE CHANGE ===

1 March 1976

INCIDENT/LAST KNOWN LOCATION CHANGED FROM XD884378 TO XD933404 BASED ON LTR, UNDATED, 2D LT LUSKY, 1 BN, 3 MAR DIV, SUBJ: C-123 MISSING AIRCRAFT REPORT.

CASE: 1074

=== JOINT INVESTIGATION, SURVEY OR EXCAVATION ===

11 August 1993

ON 1 JUL 93, IE3 INTERVIEWED THREE WITNESSES CONCERNING CASE 1074 AT DAK Krong VILLAGE, HUONG HOA DISTRICT, QUANG TRI PROVINCE. ALL THREE WITNESSES INTERVIEWED BY IE3 SAID THEY DISCOVERED A CRASH SITE POSSIBLY ASSOCIATED TO THIS CASE AFTER 1976. THEY ALL SAW EVIDENCE OF PREVIOUS SCAVENGING, AND COULD ONLY PROVIDE LIMITED DESCRIPTIONS OF THE AIRCRAFT WRECKAGE. ADDITIONALLY, THE WITNESSES OBSERVED SMALL AMOUNTS OF HUMAN REMAINS AT THE SITE, BUT AGAIN, THEY WERE VAGUE IN THEIR DESCRIPTION. MEMBERS OF IE3 CONDUCTED A SITE SURVEY OF THE CRASH SITE, OBSERVING SEVERAL SMALL PIECES OF AIRCRAFT WRECKAGE AND RECOVERED A SMALL AMOUNT OF HUMAN BONES, INCLUDING ONE TOOTH. (REF 4)

10 June 1994

FROM 21 APR TO 5 MAY 94, RECOVERY ELEMENT FOUR (RE4) CONDUCTED A JOINT EXCAVATION OF A CRASH SITE NEAR DAK Krong VILLAGE, HUONG HOA DISTRICT, QUANG TRI PROVINCE. THE SITE IS LOCATED AT GRID COORDINATE 48QXD93224058. THE SITE IS LOCATED ON A MOUNTAIN SLOPE (40 DEGREES) BOUNDED BY TWO DRY STREAMBEDS. A TOTAL OF 361 SURFACE SQUARE METERS WAS EXCAVATED TO CULTURALLY STERILE SOIL. RE4 RECOVERED NUMEROUS SKELETAL REMAINS, PERSONAL EFFECTS, AND FIVE TEETH (WITH NO APPARENT RESTORATIONS). MATERIAL EVIDENCE RECOVERED IS INSUFFICIENT TO CORRELATE THIS SITE TO THE AIRCRAFT LOST IN THIS CASE. ALL REMAINS ARE IN THE POSSESSION OF THE VNOSMP AND SHOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR THE JOINT FORENSIC REVIEW. THE PROJECT AREA WAS CLOSED BY THE CILHI TEAM LEADER BASED ON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE TEAM ANTHROPOLOGIST ON 5 MAY 94. (REF 6)